

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-8 remain pending in the application and stand rejected. Claims 3-8 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, for lacking the antecedent basis for "the laminating step". Claims 3-8 are amended above to overcome these rejections.

Claims 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Holman et al. (US 6831769) in view of Bryan (US 6151153), Zuchowski (US 6483643) and further in view of Haas et al. (US 5153759). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the reasons that follow.

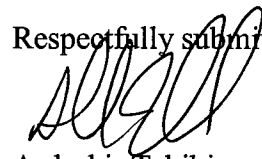
Holman is directed at an electro-optic display and not "an electro-optical sensor", as recited in claim 1. As is well known, to operate properly, light-transmissive substrate 110 (Fig.1) of Holman must be thin to enable light to pass through it to enable viewing. In contrast, as is also well known, the glass substrate in an electro-optical sensor must be sufficiently thick (substantially thicker than those used in electro-optic displays) to maintain a fixed distance between the electro-optical sensor (modulator) and a plate positioned below the glass substrate in order to enable capacitive measurement of voltage variations over a relatively large area. In other words, the light-transmissive substrate 110 of Holman is too thin--and thus too flexible-- to provide a uniform thickness to serve as an area capacitive sensor. Because Hollman is not directed at and is thus silent on an electro-optical sensor material, it teaches away from using a thick glass substrate that is required for the "electro-optical sensor" of claim 1. In other words, light-transmissive substrate 110 of Hollman would not be able to operate as a "glass substrate" in an "electro-optical sensor", as recited in claim 1. Therefore, Holman, whether taken alone, or in combination with Bryan, Zuchowski (US 6483643) and Haas fails to teach pr suggest claim 1. Claim1 and its dependent claims 2-8 are thus allowable. In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all pending claims, namely claims 1-8 are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

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Amdt. dated August 2, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 4, 2006

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (650) 752-2424.

Respectfully submitted,



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